THE PIRATES

OF

PENZANCE

WRITTEN BY

W. S. GILBERT.

COMPOSED BY

ARTHUR SULLIVAN.

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NEW YORK

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THE

PIRATES

OF

PENZANCE

OR,

The Slave of Duty.

AN ENTIRELY ORIGINAL COMIC OPERA
IN TWO ACTS.

WRITTEN BY

W. S. GILBERT.

COMPOSED BY

ARTHUR SULLIVAN.

ONLY AUTHORIZED AND COMPLETE EDITIONS.

LONDON.

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W. S. GILBERT, ARTHUR S. SULLIVAN.

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

RICHARD, A Pirate Chief							
SAMUEL, his Lieutenant							
FREDERIC, a Pirate Apprentice							
MAJOR-GENERAL STANLEY, of the British Army							
EDWARD, a Sergeant of Police							
MABEL, General Stanley's Youngest Daughter							
KATE,					- 1		
EDITH, General Stanley's Daughters					₹		
ISABEL,					- (
RUTH, a Piratical "Maid-of-all-work"							
General Stanley's Daughters, Pirate	s. Po.	icemen	etc.				
	,		,				
CONTENTS	S.						
Overture							2
Act I.	••	••	••	••	••	••	,
1 OPENING CHORUS OF PIRATES AND SOLO	• •						12
2 Song (Ruth)	•••	••	•••	•••	••	•••	17
3 Song (Pirate King and Chorus)	••	•••	••	• • •	•••	••	19
4 RECITATIVE AND DUET (Ruth and Frederic)	• •	••	• •	• •	••		22
5 CHORUS OF GIRLS		••	••	• •	• •		28
6 RECITATIVE (Edith, Kate, Frederic, and Chorus)	• •	••			• •		35
7 ARIA (Frederic and Chorus of Girls)		• •	• •		• •	• •	37
8 AIR (Mabel and Chorus)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •		41
9 (Edith, Kate, and Chorus of Girls)	• •	• •	••	• •	• •	• •	46
DURT (Mabel and Frederic, and Chorus of Girls)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •		47
11 (Frederic and Chorus of Girls and Pirates)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	52
12 RECITATIVE (Mabel, Major-General, Samuel, and Chorus	r)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	55
3 Song (Major-General and Chorus)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	56
FINALE—Act I. (Mabel, Kate, Edith, Frederic, Samuel,	King,	Major-	General	Ruth	and Cho	nus)	63
Act KK.							
I INTRODUCTION SOLO (Mabel and Chorus)							80
RECITATIVE (Frederic and Major-General)	• •		•••	• • •	••	• •	83
3 CHORUS WITH SOLOS (for Mabel, Edith, and Sergeant)	••	• •	••	• •	••		84
4 RECITATIVE AND TRIO	••	• •			••		95
TRIO (Ruth, Frederic, and King)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •		97
6 TRIO (Ruth, Frederic, and King)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	102
7 RECITATIVE AND DUET (Mabel and Frederic)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	107
8 Duet (Mabel and Frederic)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	108
o RECITATIVE (Mabel, &c. Chorus of Police)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •		114
Song (Sergeant and Chorus)	• •	• •	• •	• •	••	• •	117
11 Solo (Sergeant and Chorus of Pirates and Police)	• •	• •	• •	• •	••	• •	119
12 Solo (Samuel and Chorus of Pirates)	• •	• •	• •	• •	••	• •	121
13 (Frederic, King, Major-General, Police, and Pirates)	• •	• •	• •	••	• •	• •	125
84 SONG (Major-General and Chorus of Pirates and Police)	• •	••	••	• •	• •	• •	1 26

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

OR,

THE SLAVE OF DUTY

Composed by ARTHUR SULLIVAN. Written by W. S. GILBERT. OVERTURE.

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Soens.—A rocky sea shore on the coast of Cornwall. Rocks L., As the curtain rises groups of Pirutes are discovered, some Trink sloping down to L. C. of stage. Under these rocks is a cavern, the entrance to which is seen at first entrance L. A natural arch of rock occupies the R. C. of the stage. In the distance is a culm sea, on which a schooner is lying at anchor.

As the curtain rises groups of Pirutes are discovered, some Trink ing, some playing cards. Samuel, the Pirate Lieutenant, is going from one group to another, filling the cups from a flakk. FREDERIC is scated in a despondent attitude at the back of the scene, C. Ruth kneels at his feet.

No. 1. OPENING CHORUS OF PIRATES, & SOLO—Samuel.















(FREDERIC rises and comes forward with Pirate King, who enters scuttling a Cunarder or cutting out a White Star never shipped from R. U. E.)

KING. Yes, Frederic, from to-day you rank as a full-blown member of our band.

ALL. Hurrah!

a child I was regularly apprenticed to your band. It was through an error. No matter, the mistake was ours, not yours, and I was in honor bound by it. your kindly wishes. Would that I could repay them as they in honor bound by it. SAMUEL. An error

King. What do you mean?

FRED. To-day I am out of my indentures, and to-day I leave loved Ruth. ou for ever.

ALL Leave us?

FRED. For ever!

KING. But this is quite unaccountable. A keener hand at

a handspike. FRED. Yes, I have done my best for you. And why? It was my duty under my indentures, and I am the slave of duty. As a child I was regularly apprenticed to your band. It was through

SAMUEL. An error? What error? FRED. I may not tell you. It would renees upon my well-

(RUTH comes down C.)

RUTH. Nay, dear master, my mind has long been gnawed by the cankering tooth of myster. Better have it ont at once.





RUTH. (Kneeling at his feet.) Oh pardon, Frederic! pardon! FRED. Rise, sweet one; I have long pardoned you.

(Ruth rises.) The two words were so much alike!

They still are, though years have rolled over their friends, for such is my sense of duty that once out of my inden- we know is not the case. tures I shall feel myself bound to devote myself, heart and soul, to your extermination.

All. Poor lad! poor lad! (All weep.)

your duty to destroy us, we cannot blame you for acting on that delicate a situation? conviction. Always act in accordance with the dictates of your conscience, my boy, and chance the consequences.

Samuel. Besides, we can offer you but little temptation to remain with us. We don't seem to make piracy pay. I'm sure I don't know why, but we don't.

FRED. I know why, but, alas! I mustn't tell you: it wouldn't what is to become of her? be right.

Why not, my boy? It's only half-past eleven, and King. you are one of us until the clock strikes twelve.

 $S_{AM.}$ MCTESTS.

All. Hear! hear!

FRED. Well, then, it is my duty as a pirate to tell you that you are too tender-hearted. For instance, you make a point of never attacking a weaker party than yourselves, and when you women, it is just possible I may be mistaken. attack a stronger party you invariably get thrashed.

King. There is some truth in that.

FRED. Then, again, you make a point of never molesting an orphan.

Вам. Of course: we are orphans ourselves, and know what it is.

FRED. Yes, but it has got about, and what is the consequence > heads: (Ruth goes up with Samuel.) But this afternoon my Every one we capture says he's an orphan. The last three ships obligation ceases. Individually, I love you all with affection we took proved to be manned entirely by orphans, and so we unspeakable; but collectively, I look upon you with a disgust had to let 'em go. One would think that Great Britain's merthat amounts to absolute detestation. Oh pity me, my beloved cantile navy was recruited solely from her orphan asylums, which (Crosses R.)

SAM. But, hang it all! you wouldn't have us absolutely merciless 1

FRED. There's my difficulty. Until twelve o'clock I would; King. Well, Frederic, if you conscientiously feel that it is after twelve o'clock I wouldn't. Was ever a man placed in so

(Ruth comes down C.)

RUTH. And Ruth, your own Ruth, whom you love so well and who has won her middle-aged way into your boyish heart-

King. Oh, he will take you with him.

Fred. Well, Ruth, I feel some little difficulty about you. It is true that I admire you very much, but I have been constantly True, and until then you are bound to protect our in- at sea since I was eight years old, and yours is the only womat. face I have seen during that time. I think it is a sweet face.

RUTH. It is-oh, it is!

Fred. I say I think it is—that is my impression. But as I have never bad an opportunity of comparing 70u with other

KING. True.

FAED. What a terrible thing it would be if were to marry this innocent person, and then find out that she is, on the whole, -keep thy love! (Hands her back to FREDERIC.) plain! ·

as to take her from you. In justice to her and in consideration make them. for you I will leave her behind. (Hands RUTH to KING.)

King. No, Frederic, this must not be. We are rough men, who lead a rough life, but we are not so utterly heartless as to panying me back to civilization! deprive thee of thy love. I think I am right in saying that there is not one here who would deprive thee of this inestimable treasure for all the world holds dear.

ALL. (Loudly.) Not one!

KING. No, I thought there wasn't. Keep thy love, Frederic

FRED. You're very good, I'm sure.

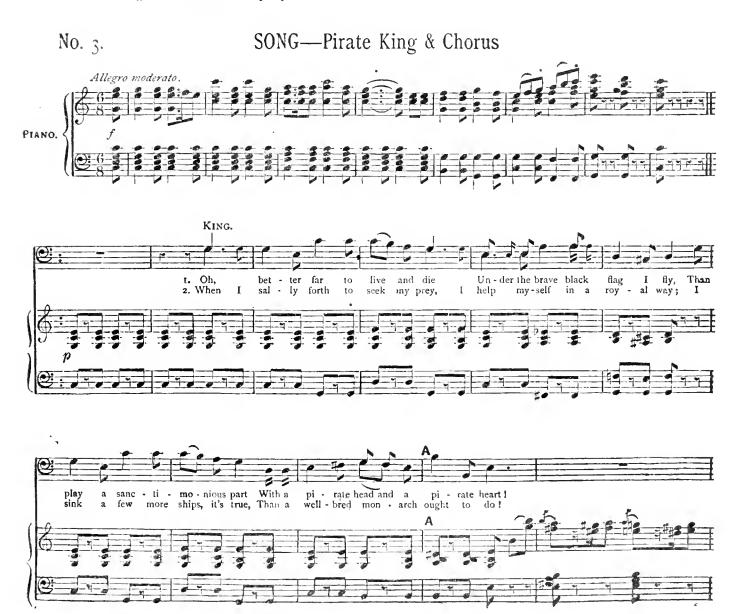
KING. Oh, Ruth is very well—very well indeed.

SAM. Yes, there are the remains of a fine woman about Ruth.

KING. Well, it's the top of the tide, and we must be at. Farewell, Frederic. When your process of extermination begins FRED. Do you really think so? Then I will not be so selfish let our deaths be as swift and painless as you can conveniently

FRED. I will. By the love I have for you, I swear it. Would that you could render this extermination unnecessary by accom-

KING. No, Frederic, it cannot be. I don't think much of our profession, but, contrasted with respectability, it is comparatively honest. No, Frederic; I shall live and die a pirate









After Song, the KING, SAMUEL, and all the Pirates, except FRED-ERIC and RUTH, go off R. and R. U. E. FREDERIC comes a fine woman. down C., followed by RUTH.)

RUTH. Oh take me with you! I cannot live if I am left behind.

FRED. Ruth, I will be quite candid with you. You are very dear to me, as you know, but I must be circumspect. You see, you are considerably older than I: a lad of twenty-one usually looks for a wife of seventeen.

tl busand!

Fred. No, but I shall find you a wife of forty-seven, and that is quite enough now. Ruth, tell me candidly and without reserve: compared with other women, how are you?

RUTH. I will answer you truthfully, master: I have a slight

cold, but otherwise I am quite well.

FILD. I am sorry for your cold, but I was referring rather to your personal appearance. Compared with other women, are you beautiful?

Ruth. (Bushfully.) I have been told so, dear master.

FRED. Ah, but lately?

Ruth. Oh no; years and years ago. But what do you think yourself? RUTH. It is a delicate question to answer, but I think I am

That is your candid opinion? Fred.

Yes: I should be deceiving vou if I told you other-Китн. wise.

Thank you, Ruth, I believe you, for I am sure you Fred. would not practise on my inexperience. I wish to do the right thing, and if-I say, if-you are really a fine woman, your age shall be no obstacle to our union. (Shakes hands with her.)

Ruth. A wife of seventeen! You will find me a wife of a (Chorus of girls heard in the extreme distance, "Climbing over rocky mountains," etc. See entrance of girls.)

FRED. Hark! surely I hear voices. Who has ventured to approach our all but inaccessible lair? Can it be custom-house? No, it does not sound like custom-house.

RUTH. (Aside.) Confusion! It is the voices of young girls!

If he should see them I am lost.

 F_{RED} , (Climbing rocky arch R. C. and looking off L.) By all that's marvellous, a bevy of beautiful maidens:

RUTH. (Aside.) Lost! lost! lost!

FRED. How lovely, how surpassingly lovely, is the plainest of them! What grace! what delicacy! what refinement! and Ruth-Ruth told me she was beautiful!

RECITATIVE & DUET—Ruth & Frederic. No. 4.







 $\cdot_{i^{\,4}}$























What a picturesque spot! I wonder where we are? EDITH. And I wonder where papa is? We have left him ever so far behind.

ISABEL. Oh, he will be here presently. Remember, poor papa is not as young as we are, and we came over a rather dif- arrive with the luncheon? (All listen and come down.) ficult country.

EDITH. We are quite alone, and the sea is as smooth.

KATE. But how thoroughly delightful it is to be so entirely Suppose we take off our shoes and stockings and paddle? alone! Why, in all probability we are the first human beings ALL. Yes, yes—the very thing! who ever set foot on this enchanting spot.

ISABEL. Except the mermaids: it's the very place for mer-

maids-

Who are only human beings down to the waist KATE. EDITH. And who can't be said, strictly, to set foot anywhere Tails they may, but feet they cannot.

KATE. But what shall we do until papa and the servant

EDITH. We are quite alone, and the sea is as smooth as glass.

(Tk ry prepare to carry out the suggestion. They have all taken of one shoe, when FREDERIC comes forward from cave.)

RECITATIVE—Edith, Kate, Frederic, & Chorus. No. 6.





No. 7. ARIA—Frederic & Chorus of Girls.













No. 8.

AIR—Mabel & Chorus.













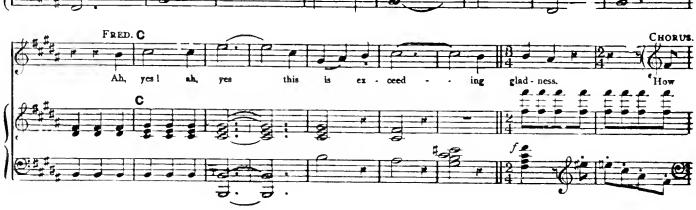
(MDITH, KATH, and girls retire up, and sit two and two, facung each other, in a line across the stage.)

(CHATTERING CROKES (during which FRED and MARKI, fondle.

No. 10. DUET—Mabel & Frederic, & Chorus of Girls



(During this the girls continue their chatter planissimo, but testening eagerly all the time.) MABEL. Did den ppp CHORUS. dim. know not why, That we shall have a warm Ju - ly. wants some rain), Yet p То find du - ty her day light break With ceed ing beau-ty! В \mathbf{Did} Her and - ness, В of such glad - ness ! ex FRED. C CHORUS.











No. 11. Frederic, & Chorus of Girls & Pirates.









No. 12. RECITATIVE—Mabel, Major-General, Samuel, & Chorus.



GENERAL. Yes, I am Major-General! ALL. You are! Hurrah for the Major-General! GENERAL. And it is a glorious thing to be a Major-General! It is! Hurrah for the Major-General!

No. 13

SONG-Major-General & Chorus.















GENERAL. And now that I've introduced myself, I should like to have some idea of what's going on.

KATE. Oh, papa! we-

SAMUEL. Permit me; I'll explain it in two words: we propose to marry your daughters.

GENERAL. Dear me!

GIRLS. Against our wills, papa—against our wills! GENERAL. Oh, but you mustn't do that. May I ask—this is a picturesque uniform, but I'm not familiar with it-what are you?

KING. We are all single gentlemen.

GENERAL. Yes, I gathered that. Anything else?

KING. No, nothing else.

MABEL. Yes, all except this gentleman (indicating Fred-ERIC), who was a pirate once, but who is out of his indentures to-day.

GENERAL. But wait a bit. I object to pirates as sons-inlaw.

we waive that point; we do not press it, we look over it.

GENERAL. (Aside.) Hah! an idea! (Aloud.) And do you meau to say that you would deliberately rob me of these the sole remaining props of my old age, and leave me to go through the remainder of life unfriended, unprotected, and alone?

KING. Well, yes; that's the idea.

GENERAL. Tell me, have you ever known what it is to be an orphan?

ALL THE PIRATES. (Disgusted.) Oh, dash it all!

KING. Here we are again!

GENERAL. I ask you, Have you ever known what it is to be an orphan?

King. (Sighing.) Often. General. Yes, orphan. Have you ever known what it is to

KING. I say, often.

ALL. (Disgusted.) Often! often! often! (Turning away.) GENERAL. I don't think we quite understand one another. EDITH. Papa, don't believe them. They are pirates—the I ask you, Have you ever known what it is to be an orphan! famous Pirates of Penzance!

and you say "Orphan." As I understand you, you are merely mous Pirates of Penzance!

and you say "Orphan." As I understand you, you are merely GENERAL. The Pirates of Penzance? I have often heard repeating the word "orphan" to show that you understand me.

King. I didn't repeat the word "often."

GENERAL. Pardon me; you did indeed. KING. I only repeated it once.

GENERAL. True, but you repeated it.

King. But not often.

GENERAL. Stop! I think I see where we are getting com-King. We object to major-generals as fathers-in-law. But fused. When you said "orphan" did you mean "orphan," e waive that point; we do not press it, we look over it.

person who has lost his parents, or "often," frequently?

KING. Oh, I beg your pardon! I see you mean frequently.

GENERAL. Ah, you said "often" frequently.

King. No, only once.

GENERAL. Exactly, you said "often, frequently," only once

Finale—Act I.

Mabel, Kate, Edith, Frederic, Samuel, King, Major-General, Ruth, & Chorus.



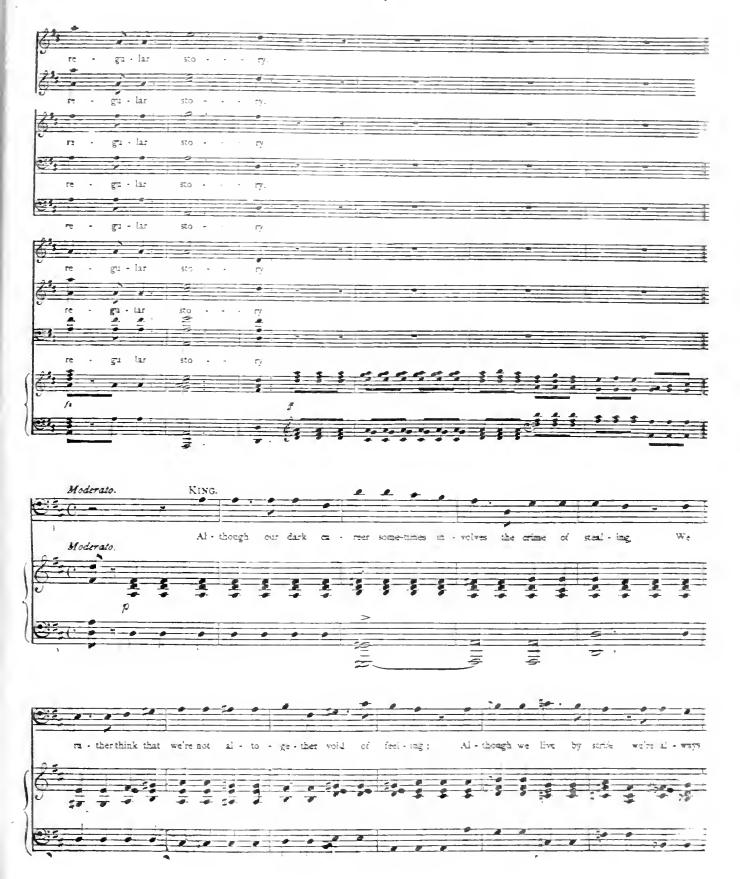
























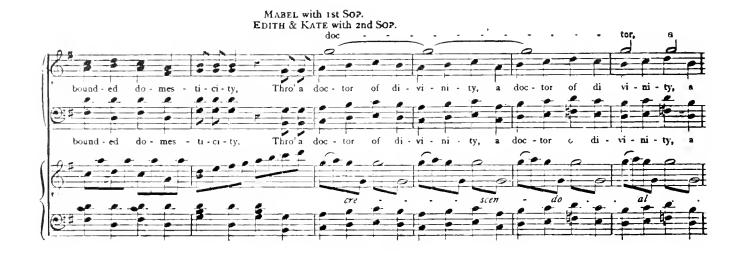




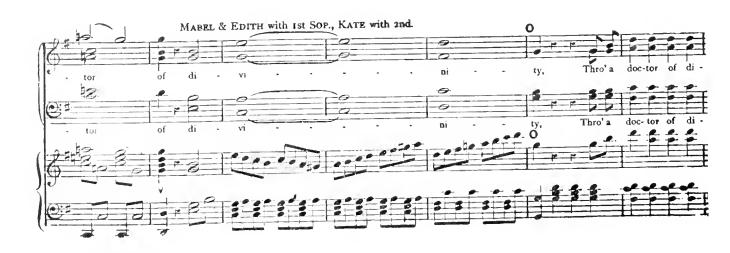














(Girls and General go up rocks L. Group while Pirates indulge in a wild dance of delight on stage R. and R. C. The General produces a British flug, and the Purate King (on arched rock R. C.) produces a black flug with skull and crossbones. Picture.)

END OF AGT &

ACT II.

Scene.—A ruined chapel by moonlight. Aisles C., R., and L., General Stanley discovered seated R. C. pensively, surrounded divided by pillars and arches; ruined Gothie windows at back. by his daughters.

No. 1. INTRODUCTION. SOLO—Mabel & Chorus







(FRED enters R. U. E. and down C.)

MABEL. Oh, Frederic, cannot you reconcile it with your conscience to say something that will relieve my father's sorrow?

FRED. I will try, dear Mabel, but why does he sit, night

after night, in this draughty old ruin?

GENERAL. Why do I sit here? To escape from the pirates' clutches I described myself as an orphan, and I am no orphan. I came here to humble myself before the tombs of my ancestors, and to implore their pardon for the disgrace I have brought upon them.

FRED. But you forget, sir. You only bought the property year ago, and the stucco on your baronial castle is scarcely dry.

GENERAL. Frederic, in this chapel are ancestors; you cannot deny that. I don't know whose ancestors they were, but I know whose ancestors they are, and I shudder to think that their descendant by purchase (if I may so describe myself) should

have brought disgrace upon what I nave no accept was an unstained excutcheon.

FRED. Be comforted. Had you not acted as you did, there reckless men would assuredly have called in the nearest clergyman, and have married your large family on the spot.

GENERAL. I thank you for your proffered solace, but it is unavailing. At what time does your expedition march against

these scoundrels?

FRED. At eleven, and before midnight I hope to have atoned for my involuntary association with these pestilent scourges by sweeping them from the face of the earth.—And then, my Mabel, you will be mine!

GENERAL. Are your devoted followers at hand?

FRED. They are; they only wait my orders.

(Enter Police, marching in single file from L., 2d E., and file in line, facing audience.)

No. 2. RECITATIVE—Frederic & Major-General.





No. 3. CHORUS—With Solos for Mabel. Edith. & Sergeant.











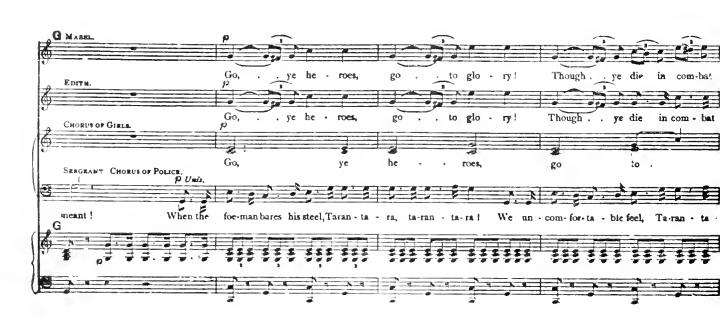




















(MABEL tears herself from FRED, and exits R., followed by her sisters, consoling her. The GENERAL and others follow the Police off L. FREDERIC remains alone.)















(AL throw themselves back on seats, exhausted with laughing.)

Upon my word, this is most curious,

Most absurdly whimsical. Five and a quarter!

No one would think it to look at me.

You are glad now, I'll be bound, that you spared us. You would never have forgiven yourself when you discovered that you had killed two of your comrades.

My eomrades? FRED.

King. I'm afraid you don't appreciate the delicaey of your You were apprenticed to usposition.

Until I reached my twenty-first year. Fred.

King. No, until you reached your twenty-first birthday (producing document), and, going by birthdays, you are as yet only five and a quarter.

FRED. You don't mean to say you are going to hold me to

that?

King. No, we merely remind you of the fact, and leave the

rest to your sense of duty.

FRED. (Wildly.) Don't put it on that footing. As I was merciful to you just now, be mercitur to me. I implore you not to insist on the letter of your bond just as the cup of happiness

RUTH. We insist on nothing. We content ourselves with

pointing out to you your duty.

FRED. Well, you have appealed to my sense of duty, and my duty is only too clear. I abhor your infamous calling, I shudder

at the thought that I have ever been mixed up with it, but due, is before all. At any cost, I will do my duty.

King. Bravely spoken! Come, you are one of us once more.

Fred. Lead on, I follow! (Suddenly.) Oh, horror!

KING and RUTH. What is the matter?

FRED. Ought I to tell you? No! no! I cannot do it; and yet, as one of your band-

KING. Speak out, I charge you, by that sense of consorer tiousness to which we have never yet appealed in vain.

FRED. General Stanley, the father of my Mabel-

KING and RUTH. Yes! yes!

FRED. He escaped from you on the piea that he was as orphan?

KING.

FRED. It breaks my heart to betray the honored tather of the girl I adore, but as your apprentice I have no alternative It is my duty to tell you that General Stanley is no orphan.

KING and RUTH. What?

Fred. More than that, he never was one!

KING. Am I to understand that to save his contemptible life he dared to practise on our credulous simplicity? (FRED nods as he weeps.) Our revenge shall be swift and terrible. We will go and collect our band and attack Tremorden Castle this very night.

FRED. But-

King. Not a word! he is doomed!

No. 6.

TRIO—Ruth, Frederic, & King.











No. 7. RECITATIVE & DUET—Mabel & Frederic.





















MAREL. Sergeant, approach. Young Frederic was to have ted you to death and glory.

All. That is not a pleasant way of putting it.

MABEL. No matter. He will not so lead you, for he has allied himself once more with his old associates.

ALL. He has acted shamefully!

MABEL. You speak falsely; you know nothing about it. He has acted nobly!

ALL. He has acted nobly!

his sense of duty has endeared him to me tenfold; but if it was thought of that before we joined the force. his duty to constitute himself my foe, it is likewise my duty to regard him in that light. He has done his duty; I will do (Exit Mabel R. I. E.) wine. Go ye and do yours.

Ann. Very well. Sergeant. This is perplexing.

ALL. We cannot understand it at all.

SERGEANT. Still, if he is actuated by a sense of duty-ALL. That makes a difference, of course. At the same time we repeat we cannot understand it.

SERGEANT. No matter. Our course is clear; we must to our best to capture these pirates alone. It is most distressing to us to be the agents whereby our erring fellow-creatures are de-MABEL. Dearly as I loved him before, his heroic sacrifice to prived of that liberty which is so dear to all, but we should have

ALL. We should.

SERGEANT. It is too late now.

ALL. It is.





No. 11. SOLO—Sergeant, & Chorus of Pirates & Police.





(Police conceal themselves in aisle L. As they do so the Pirates, with RUTH and FREDERIC, are seen appearing at ruined win-

dow C. They enter cautiously, and come down stage on liptor. The King is laden with burglarious sols and pistols, etc., etc.,









No. 13. Frederic, King, Major-General, Police, & Pirates.









Ped.

Ped

E











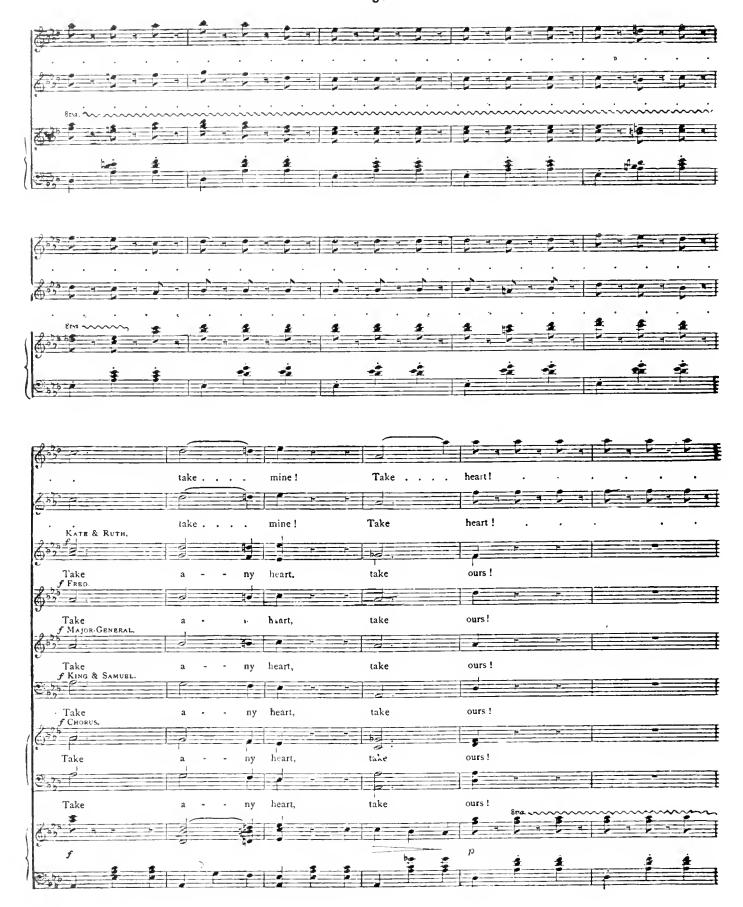
(Police, holding Pirates by the collar, take out handkerchiefs and













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